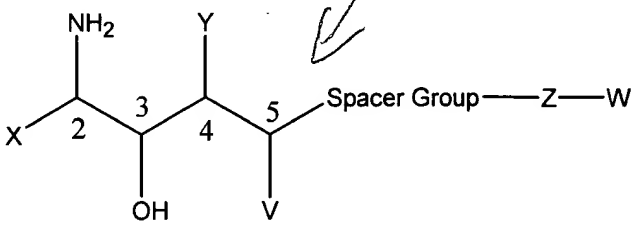
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

9. (twice amended) A method of treating a neoplastic condition or toxicity in a subject associated with an alteration in sphingolipid metabolism comprising administering an effective amount of a ~~fumonisin or a~~ fumonisin analog thereof of the formula:



reads on fumonisin analogue but not fumonisin

wherein the spacer group is selected from the group consisting of alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_{20}), hydroxyalkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_{20}) or dihydroxyalkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_{20}); Z is selected from the group consisting of H, O, NH, NQ, NQC(O), NHC(O), CO_2, C(O)NH, and C(O)NQ, wherein Q is an alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_6); W is selected from the group consisting of no substituent, H, alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_6), aryl (phenyl, substituted phenyl such as substitution with alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_6) or halo), $C(O)(CH_2)_nCO_2H$ (where n= 1 - 6), $C(O)(CH_2)_n CW'_2 CO_2 H$, where W' is selected independently from H, alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_6), aryl (phenyl, substituted phenyl such as substitution with alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_6) or halo), and $(CH_2)_n CO_2 H$, wherein n= 1 - 6; X is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, CH_2 OH (and esters thereof), $CH_2 NQ'_2$ (where Q' is selected independently from H, alkyl (straight chain or branched, C_1 - C_{20}), and acyl (C(O)Q" where Q" is an alkyl, straight chain or branched, C_1 -C_{20})); and V and Y are independently selected from the group consisting of H or OH (and esters thereof).

12. (twice amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the fumonisin or fumonisin analog is administered in an amount between 5 and 500 mg.